courses enable participants to upgrade their academic standing, improve their vocational, technical and commercial skills, and develop new skills in the field of arts and crafts, cooking, sewing and many other areas.

Post-secondary education in Ontario is under the jurisdiction of the Ontario Department of Colleges and Universities. Post-secondary educational facilities include colleges of applied arts and technology, teachers' colleges, colleges and faculties of education, and universities.

Admission to a college of applied arts and technology generally requires a Secondary School Graduation Certificate, awarded at the completion of twenty-seven credits of secondary school work. Entrance to a university generally requires a Secondary School Honour Graduation Diploma which is awarded on the successful completion of at least an additional six specially designated credits beyond those required for the Secondary School Graduation Certificate. Entrance requirements, however, are somewhat flexible and additional information may be obtained from the Information and Public Relations Branch of the Department of Colleges and Universities, 6th Floor, Mowat Block, Queen's Park, Toronto 182. The telephone number is 365-6431.

Persons seeking information regarding teaching certificates, teacher and student records, and evaluation of teaching certificates and educational standing should write to the Registrar's Branch, Ontario Department of Education, 18th Floor, Mowat Block, Queen's Park, Toronto 182. General inquiries should be directed to the Department's News and Information Services on the 14th floor at the same address or by calling 365-1238.

## Ontario Department of Education

Regional Offices

| | |
|---|---|
| Region 1/Northwestern<br>303 News Chronicle Building<br>Thunder Bay "P" | 345-6551 |
| Region 2/Midnorthern<br>1349 Lasalle Blvd.<br>Sudbury | 566-3480 |
| Region 3/Northeastern<br>240 Algonquin Avenue<br>North Bay | 474-7210 |
| Region 4/Western<br>759 Hyde Park Road<br>London 73 | 472-1440 |
| Region 5/Midwestern<br>279 Weber Street North<br>Waterloo | 885-0440 |
| Region 6/Niagara<br>15 Church Street, Suite 402<br>St. Catharines | 684-1123 |
| Region 7/West Central<br>40 Eglinton Avenue East<br>Toronto 315 | 365-2692 |
| Region 8/East Central<br>2025 Sheppard Avenue East,<br>Suite 320, Willowdale | 491-0330 |
| Region 9/Eastern<br>1082 Princess Street<br>Kingston | 546-2641 |
| Region 10/Ottawa Valley<br>1825 Woodward Drive<br>Ottawa K2C OR2 | 225-2230 |

After March 17, 1972 telephone numbers in this brochure having the prefix 365 will change to 965.

OHEC/370.9713/059DE/Mp

Ontario Department of Education

answers to a few of the most frequently asked questions on

# education in ontario

1972

# Education in Ontario's Schools

In the Province of Ontario elementary and secondary education is under the jurisdiction of the Ontario Department of Education and local school boards across the province.

The Department's role is to provide the means for equality of educational opportunity for all Ontario citizens. This is achieved in a variety of ways.

At the classroom level the Department develops broad curriculum guidelines for teachers to assist them in classroom instruction. It is also responsible for the certification of teachers. Current requirements for teaching in Ontario's elementary schools is one year of university in an arts or science discipline and one year of special training at a teachers' college. At the secondary level the requirements are a degree in arts or science and one year of specialized teacher training. In September 1973, all those considering a teaching career will require an arts or science degree before taking their teacher training.

The Department concentrates the largest part of its public funds on the improvement and growth of the school system. In 1971, an amount in excess of one billion dollars was made available to school boards toward the cost of elementary and secondary school education. The amount represented about 55 per cent of the estimated total cost of elementary and secondary education in the province. The grants are paid directly to the local school boards for use in meeting the cost of instruction, student transportation, school building and renovation, and administration.

The Department of Education provides extensive assistance to boards in developing programs for children who are physically handicapped, mentally retarded, educationally retarded, perceptually handicapped, emotionally disturbed, partially sighted, blind or deaf. The creation of larger units of administration has enabled the boards to provide facilities for more effective education of children with learning disabilities. In co-operation with the Department of Health, the Department of Education provides the school programs for the mentally retarded in seven Ontario hospital schools.

The Department also offers a variety of special services. It operates schools for the deaf in Milton and Belleville for residential and day students. The cost of the students' tuition is borne by the Department. The Toronto Day School for the Deaf, operated by the Toronto Board of Education, serves the Metropolitan Toronto area. Residents living outside Metropolitan Toronto may apply to the school for the deaf in their area to have their child enrolled. The School for the Blind at Brantford is also operated by the Department and is a residential school for blind children in the province. These special schools offer full academic training and the opportunity for the development of vocational and commercial skills.

For 50,000 Ontario residents unable to attend school and Ontario residents temporarily living outside the province, school goes to them by means of a broad range of elementary, secondary, and vocational correspondence courses. Textbooks for the elementary school years and for secondary school programs leading to the Secondary School Graduation Diploma, science kits, and French language records are provided on loan; paper, envelopes and postage are supplied by the Department without cost to the student. Correspondence courses are provided up to and including courses leading to the Secondary School Honour Graduation Diploma. At the senior grade levels, they provide thousands of Ontario citizens with the opportunity to upgrade their educational standing. The Correspondence Courses Branch is located at 1152 Bay Street, Toronto 181. The telephone number is 365-2657.

The Department maintains 10 regional offices throughout the province. The regional offices are involved in all aspects of the educational program and provide Department services at the local level.

The local school board is composed of a group of trustees elected by the people of the area they serve. The board is responsible for the operation of the schools, the hiring of teachers, the provision of school accommodation and, where required, transportation. With the staff of its schools, the board develops programs within the curriculum guidelines set down by the Department.

The board's operations are financed by the grants from the Department of Education and local taxes levied on the property owners within the board's jurisdiction.

- The public school system operates from kindergarten to the end of the Senior Division. The Roman Catholic separate school system operates from kindergarten to the end of the eighth year after kindergarten and may operate to the end of the Intermediate Division. Both systems are publicly financed. Students from the Roman Catholic separate school system may complete their Senior Division program in the public secondary school system.

- In Ontario the school program is organized as follows:
  Kindergarten and sometimes Junior Kindergarten – one or two years
  Primary Division – three years
  Junior Division – three years
  Intermediate Division – four years
  Senior Division – three years

A school aged child of a parent who resides in Ontario and who is a Canadian citizen or a landed immigrant is entitled to an education in both elementary and secondary schools. The student may be enrolled by taking him to the appropriate school serving the neighbourhood and registering him through the principal's office. It would be helpful in placing the new student if records from his previous school, such as a transfer form and his most recent report card, are made available to the principal of the receiving school. School attendance is compulsory from age six to sixteen. The school year begins on the Tuesday following the first Monday in September. Any child who will be six years of age during the calendar year in which the school year starts must attend classes. Attendance at kindergarten is not mandatory but a child usually begins his education in kindergarten at age five. The elementary level of education is generally considered to be kindergarten to the end of the second year of the Intermediate Division. The secondary level completes the Intermediate Division and includes all of the Senior Division.

English is the language of instruction but some schools offer instruction in the French language and there are a number of bilingual schools.

There are more than 250 private schools in Ontario. These are registered with the Department of Education. They are either residential or day schools or both and offer a full range of academic subjects. Tuition fees are paid directly to the schools. Parents sending their children to private schools must still pay the educational portion of their municipal taxes.

The majority of school boards offers a wide variety of night school courses. These